UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _11 June 2001_.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-59_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-59_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: .

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Fado

et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,067,084.

As per claim 1, Fado et al. ("Fado") teaches one or more computer-readable

media storing a computer program that, when executed by one or more processors,

causes the one or more processors to:

display a subset of a plurality of steps in an order to be performed by a user (see

Fado, column 2, lines 6 – 22);

altering an appearance of a current step in the subset of steps that needs to be

performed by the user to distinguish the current step from other steps in the subset (see

Fado, column 2, lines 6 – 22; the examiner interprets displaying a graphical user

interface for every step as altering the appearance of the step);

allowing the user to input data corresponding to the current step (see Fado, column 2, lines 6 – 22); and

scrolling, in response to user input of data corresponding to the current step, the plurality of steps so that a new subset of the plurality of steps is presented to the user (see Fado, column 2, lines 6 – 22; the examiner interprets displaying the next step as a graphical user interface as scrolling to present the next step).

As per claim 2, which is dependent on claim 1, Fado teaches the computer-readable media of claim 1 (see rejection above). Fado further teaches one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 1, wherein the computer program further causes the one or more processors to:

alter, in response to user input of data corresponding to the current step, the appearance of another step as necessary to identify the new current step in the subset of steps that needs to be performed by the user (see Fado, column 2, lines 6 – 22; the examiner interprets displaying a second graphical user interface in response to a user selecting a headset with microphones as altering the appearance of another step).

Claims 10 – 14, 16, 17,19, 28, 33, 35 – 38, 40 – 47, 52, 53, 55 – 57, and 59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Miller et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,661,437.

As per claim 10, Miller teaches a method comprising:

displaying a list of items to be handled by a user in a particular order (see Miller, column 7, line 47 – 51);

identifying one item in the list of items that is the current item (see Miller, figure 9, item 915 and column 2, lines 34 – 46);

receiving a user input corresponding to the current item (see Miller, column 7, lines 55 – 58); and

updating, in response to receiving the user input, the identification of the one item that is the current item to indicate the next item in the list of items as the current item (see Miller, figure 9, items 910 – 930, and column 7, line 44 – 58; it is inherent that the currently selected setting will be highlighted and therefore when the next setting is selected to be changed it is highlighted and the setting that was being worked on is no longer highlighted).

As per claim 11, which is dependent on claim 10, Miller teaches the method of claim 11 (see rejection above). Miller further teaches a method as recited in claim 10, wherein displaying the list of items comprises displaying at least one item corresponding to a task that has already been performed and at least one item corresponding to a task that still needs to be performed by the user (see Miller, figure 9, items 910 – 930, column 2, lines 42 – 46, and column 7, lines 49 – 51; the examiner interprets displaying settings that need to be set as displaying future tasks that need to be performed by the user).

As per claim 12, which is dependent on claim 10, Miller teaches the method of claim 10 (see rejection above). Miller further teaches a method as recited in claim 10, wherein displaying the list of items comprises displaying, after the user input is received, the user input in place of the corresponding item (see Miller, figure 4, item 415 and column 6, lines 59 – 64; it is inherent that item 415 is replaced to display the input when selected by the user as shown in figure 4 because corresponding, unselected item 420 is displayed without this input).

As per claim 13, which is dependent on claim 10, Miller teaches the method of claim 10 (see rejection above). Miller further teaches a method as recited in claim 10, wherein displaying the list of items comprises displaying only a subset of the list of items at any given time (see Miller, figure 5, item 555).

As per claim 14, which is dependent on claim 13, Miller teaches the method of claim 13 (see rejection above). Miller further teaches a method as recited in claim 13, further comprising scrolling through the list of items to display different subsets as items in the list are handled by the user (see Miller, column 6, line 65 – column 7, line 8).

As per claim 16, which is dependent on claim 10, Miller teaches the method of claim 10 (see rejection above). Miller further teaches a method as recited in claim 10, wherein the list of items comprises a list of tasks to be completed by the user, and

wherein handling of an item by the user comprises the user completing the task (see

Miller, column 7, lines 44 – 58).

As per claim 17, which is dependent on claim 16, Miller teaches the method of

claim 16 (see rejection above). Miller further teaches a method as recited in claim 16,

wherein the list of tasks comprises a list of prompts corresponding to data to be entered

into the computer by the user (see Miller, column 7, lines 44 – 58).

As per claim 19, which is dependent on claim 10, Miller teaches the method of

claim 10 (see rejection above). Miller further teaches one or more computer-readable

memories containing a computer program that is executable by a processor to perform

the method recited in claim 10 (see Miller, column 2, lines 27 - 30).

As per claim 28, Miller teaches a graphical user interface comprising:

a list portion identifying a list of a plurality of items to be handled by a user (see

Miller, column 7, line 47 – 51);

a user choices portion identifying information corresponding to a current item in

the list (see Miller, figure 9, item 915); and

a current location marker that identifies one item of the list that is the current item

to be handled by the user (see Miller, column 2, lines 34 – 46), wherein the current

location marker is automatically updated to identify the next item in the list after the

current item in the list has been handled by the user (see Miller, figure 9, items 910 –

930, and column 7, line 44 – 58; it is inherent that the currently selected setting will be

highlighted and therefore when the next setting is selected to be changed it is

highlighted and the setting that was being worked on is no longer highlighted).

As per claim 33, which is dependent on claim 28, Miller teaches the method of

claim 28 (see rejection above). Miller further teaches a graphical user interface as

recited in claim 28, wherein the list portion further identifies information that has been

entered by the user in handling previous items in the list (see Miller, column 2, lines 42

– 46).

As per claim 35, Miller teaches a system comprising:

a display device; a user interface component, coupled to the display device,

causing a user interface to be displayed on the display device (see Miller, column 1,

lines 32 – 34);

wherein the user interface includes a list portion in which a list of a plurality of

items to be handled by a user are displayed (see Miller, column 7, line 47 – 51);

wherein the user interface further includes a current location marker identifying

one of the items in the list as the current item that needs to be handled by the user (see

Miller, column 2, lines 34 – 46); and

wherein the user interface component further automatically updates the current

location marker to identify a new item in the list in response to the user handling the

current item in the list (see Miller, figure 9, items 910 – 930, and column 7, line 44 – 58;

it is inherent that the currently selected setting will be highlighted and therefore when the next setting is selected to be changed it is highlighted and the setting that was being worked on is no longer highlighted).

As per claim 36, which is dependent on claim 35, it is of similar scope to claim 12 and is rejected under the same rationale as claim 12 (see rejection above).

As per claim 37, which is dependent on claim 35, it is of similar scope to claim 13 and is rejected under the same rationale as claim 13(see rejection above).

As per claim 38, which is dependent on claim 37, it is of similar scope to claim 14 and is rejected under the same rationale as claim 14 (see rejection above).

As per claim 40, which is dependent on claim 35, it is of similar scope to claim 16 and is rejected under the same rationale as claim 16 (see rejection above).

As per claim 41, which is dependent on claim 40, it is of similar scope to claim 17 and is rejected under the same rationale as claim 17 (see rejection above).

As per claim 42, which is dependent on claim 40, Miller teaches the method of claim 40 (see rejection above). Miller further teaches a system as recited in claim 40, wherein the user interface component is implemented in software (see Miller, column 2,

lines 27 – 30).

As per claim 43, Miller teaches a method comprising:

displaying a list of tasks to be performed (see Miller, figure 9, items 910 – 930);

identifying one task in the list of tasks that is the current task needing to be

performed (see Miller, figure 9, item 915 and column 2, lines 34 – 46);

receiving an input corresponding to the current task (see Miller, column 7, lines

55 – 58); and

updating, in response to receiving the input, the identification of the one task that

is the current task to indicate that the next task in the list of tasks is the current task

needing to be performed (see Miller, figure 9, items 910 – 930, and column 7, line 44 –

58; it is inherent that the currently selected setting will be highlighted and therefore

when the next setting is selected to be changed it is highlighted and the setting that was

being worked on is no longer highlighted).

As per claim 44, which is dependent on claim 43, Miller teaches the method of

claim 43 (see rejection above). Miller further teaches a method as recited in claim 43,

wherein the displaying comprises displaying a list of tasks to be performed by a user

(see Miller, column 7, lines 44 – 58).

As per claim 45, which is dependent on claim 43, Miller teaches the method of

claim 43. Miller further teaches a method as recited in claim 43, wherein the identifying

comprises superimposing, on the display of the current task in the list, a set of one or more input options corresponding to the task (see Miller, figure 9, item 915).

As per claim 46, which is dependent on claim 45, Miller teaches the method of claim 45 (see rejection above). Miller further teaches a method as recited in claim 45, wherein the receiving comprises receiving, as the input corresponding to the current task, one of the input options from the set of one or more input options (see Miller, column 7, lines 55 – 58).

As per claim 47, which is dependent on claim 43, Miller teaches the method of claim 43 (see rejection above). Miller further teaches a method as recited in claim 43, wherein the receiving comprises receiving a user input (see Miller, column 7, lines 55 – 58).

As per claim 52, which is dependent on claim 43, it is of similar scope to claim 13 and is rejected under the same rationale as claim 13 (see rejection above).

As per claim 53, which is dependent on claim 52, it is of similar scope to claim 14 and is rejected under the same rationale as claim 14 (see rejection above).

As per claim 55, which is dependent on claim 43, Miller teaches the method of claim 43 (see rejection above). Miller further teaches one or more computer-readable

memories containing a computer program that is executable by a processor to perform

the method recited in claim 43 (see Miller, column 2, lines 27 – 30; it is inherent that a

personal computer comprises a processor).

As per claim 56, Miller teaches a graphical user interface comprising:

a task list portion identifying a list of a plurality of tasks to be performed by a user

(see Miller, figure 9, items 910 – 930); and

an indication in the task list portion of a current task to be performed (see Miller,

figure 9, item 915), wherein the indication is changed, in response to the current task

being performed, to indicate a next task in the list as the current task to be performed

(see Miller, figure 9, items 910 – 930, and column 7, line 44 – 58; it is inherent that the

currently selected setting will be highlighted and therefore when the next setting is

selected to be changed it is highlighted and the setting that was being worked on is no

longer highlighted).

As per claim 57, which is dependent on claim 56, Miller teaches the graphical

user interface of claim 56 (see rejection above). Miller further teaches a graphical user

interface as recited in claim 56, further comprising a user choices portion identifying

information corresponding to the current task on the list to be performed (see Miller,

figure 5, item 555).

As per claim 59, it is of similar scope to claim 43 and is rejected under the same

rationale as claim 43 (see rejection above).

Claims 20, 24, 26, and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being

anticipated by Cohen et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,507,845.

As per claim 20, Cohen et al. ("Cohen") teaches a method comprising:

displaying an identification of a plurality of users; and

for each of the plurality of users, displaying a list of tasks to be performed by the

user, identifying one task in the list of tasks that is the current task that needs to be

performed by the user (see Cohen, column 3, lines 28 – 38); and

updating, in response to completion of the task by the user, the identification of the one

task that is the current task that needs to be performed by the user to be the next task in

the list of tasks (see Cohen, column 7, line 48 – column 8, line 5; the examiner

interprets updating the current task as indicating a next task in the list of tasks).

As per claim 24, which is dependent on claim 24, Cohen teaches the method of

claim 20 (see rejection above). Cohen further teaches a method as recited in claim 20,

wherein identifying one task that is the current task comprises displaying a geometric

shape as a current location marker identifying the one task (see Cohen, figure 10, item

204, and column 6, lines 41 – 45).

As per claim 26, which is dependent on claim 20, Cohen teaches the method of

claim 20 (see rejection above). Cohen further teaches a method as recited in claim 20,

further comprising: receiving, for each of the plurality of users, an indication from each

user's computer of the current task for that user (see Cohen, column 3, lines 11 – 14; it

is inherent that the user uses his or her computer to access the documents, and

therefore it is inherent that the information is received from the user's computer).

As per claim 27, which is dependent on claim 20, Cohen teaches the method of

claim 20 (see rejection above). Cohen further teaches one or more computer-readable

memories containing a computer program that is executable by a processor to perform

the method recited in claim 20 (see Cohen, column 4, lines 18 – 24).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3 – 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Fado et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,067,084 in view of Miller et al., U.S. Patent No.

6,661,437.

As per claim 3, which is dependent on claim 1, Fado teaches the computer-

readable media of claim 1 (see rejection above). Fado does not teach one or more

computer-readable media as recited in claim 1, wherein altering the appearance of the

current step comprises marking the current location with a ball. Miller et al. ("Miller")

teaches altering the appearance of the current step comprises marking the current

location with a ball (see Miller, figure 2, item 220). It would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Miller

with the computer-readable media of Fado in order to indicate menu entry points.

As per claim 4, which is dependent on claim 1, Fado teaches the computer-

readable media of claim 1 (see rejection above). Fado does not teach one or more

computer-readable media as recited in claim 1, wherein altering the appearance of the

current step comprises displaying the current step differently than other steps in the

subset. Miller teaches altering the appearance of the current step comprises displaying

the current step differently than other steps in the subset (see Miller, figure 9, item 915).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention

to incorporate the method of Miller with the computer-readable media of Fado in order

to enable the user to readily differentiate the current step.

As per claim 5, which is dependent on claim 1, Fado teaches the computer-readable media of claim 1 (see rejection above). Fado does not teach one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 1, wherein altering the appearance of the current step comprises replacing the current step with a set of one or more input options for the current step. Miller teaches altering the appearance of the current step comprises replacing the current step with a set of one or more input options for the current step (see Miller, figure 4, item 415 and column 6, lines 59 – 64; it is inherent that item 415 is replaced to display the input options when selected as shown in figure 4 because corresponding, unselected item 420 is displayed without these options). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Miller with the computer-readable media of Fado in order to indicate task option status to the user.

As per claim 6, which is dependent on claim 1, Fado teaches the computer-readable media of claim 1 (see rejection above). Fado does not teach one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 1, wherein altering the appearance of the current step comprises superimposing, on the current step, a set of one or more input options for the current step. Miller teaches altering the appearance of the current step comprises superimposing, on the current step, a set of one or more input options for the current step (see Miller, figure 3, items 330 and 335; the examiner interprets displaying dialog box 335 as superimposing more input options for the current step 330). It would

have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to

incorporate the method of Miller with the computer-readable media of Fado in order to

indicate task option status to the user.

As per claim 7, which is dependent on claim 1, Fado teaches the computer-

readable media of claim 1 (see rejection above). Fado does not teach one or more

computer-readable media as recited in claim 1, wherein the computer program further

causes the one or more processors to: replace, in the subset, the display of the current

step with a display of the input data. Miller teaches replacing, in the subset, the display

of the current step with a display of the input data (see Miller, figure 4, item 415 and

column 6, lines 59 – 64; it is inherent that item 415 is replaced to display the input

options when selected as shown in figure 4 because corresponding, unselected item

420 is displayed without these options). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary

skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Miller with the

computer-readable media of Fado in order to indicate options of the current step to the

user.

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fado et

al., U.S. Patent No. 6,067,084 in view of Amezcua et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,458,331.

As per claim 8, which is dependent on claim 1, Fado teaches the method of claim

1 (see rejection above). Fado does not teach one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 1, wherein the computer program further causes the one or more processors to: display a current processing marker that identifies which step in the subset of steps is currently being processed by the one or more processors. Amezcua et al. ("Amezcua") teaches displaying a current processing marker that identifies which step in the subset of steps is currently being processed by the one or more processors (see Amezcua, column 2, lines 5 – 12). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Amezcua with the computer-readable media of Fado to provide a means of communicating to the user should a step running in the background require attention during its processing.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fado et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,067,084 in view of Janik, U.S. Patent No. 5,285,398.

As per claim 9, which is dependent on claim 1, Fado teaches the computer-readable media of claim 1 (see rejection above). Fado does not teach one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 1, wherein the one or more computer-readable media comprise a computer memory of a wearable computer. Janik teaches a computer-readable media comprising a computer memory of a wearable computer (see Janik, column 2, lines 23 – 28). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the wearable computer

of Janik with the computer-readable media of Fado in order to allow portability of the

computer-readable media.

Claims 15, 54 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Miller et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,661,437 in view of Amezcua et al., U.S. Patent No.

4,458,331.

As per claim 15, which is dependent on claim 10, Miller teaches the method of

claim 10 (see rejection above). Miller does not teach a method as recited in claim 10,

further comprising displaying a current processing marker identifying an item in the list

of items corresponding to a current user input being processed. Amezcua et al.

("Amezcua") teaches displaying a current processing marker identifying an item in the

list of items corresponding to a current user input being processed (see Amezcua,

column 2, lines 5 – 12). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at

the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Amezcua with the method of Miller

to provide a means of communicating to the user should a step running in the

background require attention during its processing.

As per claim 54, which is dependent on clam 43, it is of similar scope to claim 15

and is rejected under the same rationale as claim 15 (see rejection above).

As per claim 39, which is dependent on claim 35, it is of similar scope to claim 15 and is rejected under the same rationale as claim 15 (see rejection above).

Claims 18, 31 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,661,437 in view of Best, U.S. Patent No. 4,569,026.

As per claim 18, which is dependent on claim 10, Miller teaches the method of claim 10 (see rejection above). Miller does not teach a method as recited in claim 10, wherein the list of items comprises a list of prompts of words to be spoken by the user, and wherein handling of an item by the user comprises speaking one or more words corresponding to the prompt. Best teaches a method wherein a list of items comprises a list of prompts of words to be spoken by the user, and wherein handling of an item by the user comprises speaking one or more words corresponding to the prompt (see Best, column 2, lines 25 – 30). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Best with the method of Miller in order to provide an illusion of individualized and active participation with a system.

As per claim 31, which is dependent on claim 28, Miller teaches the graphical user interface of claim 28 (see rejection above). Miller does not teach a graphical user interface as recited in claim 28, wherein the list of a plurality of items comprises a list of words to be spoken by the user. Best teaches a graphical user interface wherein a list

of a plurality of items comprises a list of words to be spoken by the user (see Best, column 2, lines 25 – 30). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the graphical user interface of Best with the graphical user interface of Miller in order to provide an illusion of individualized and active participation with a system.

As per claim 32, which is dependent on claim 28, it is of similar scope to claim 18 and is rejected under the same rationale as claim 18 (see rejection above).

Claims 21 – 23, and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cohen et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,507,845 in view of Miller et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,661,437.

As per claim 21, which is dependent on claim 20, Cohen teaches the method of claim 20 (see rejection above). Cohen does not teach a method as recited in claim 20, wherein displaying the list of tasks comprises displaying only a subset of the list of tasks to be performed by the user at any given time. Miller teaches displaying only a subset of the list of tasks to be performed by the user at any given time (see Miller, figure 5, item 555). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Miller with the computer-readable media of Fado in order to enable the user to readily differentiate the subsets of the current step.

As per claim 22, which is dependent on claim 21, Cohen and Miller teach the method of claim 22 (see rejection above). Cohen does not teach a method as recited in claim 21, further comprising scrolling through the list of tasks to display different subsets as tasks in the list are completed by the user. Miller teaches further comprising scrolling through the list of tasks to display different subsets as tasks in the list are completed by the user (see Miller, figure 5, item 555, and column 6, line 65 – column 7, line 8). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Miller with the method of Cohen in order to maintain user viewability of the subsets of the current tasks.

As per claim 23, which is dependent on claim 20, Cohen teaches the method of claim 20 (see rejection above). Cohen does not teach a method as recited in claim 20, wherein the list of tasks comprises a list of actions to be taken by the user. Miller teaches wherein the list of tasks comprises a list of actions to be taken by the user (see Miller, column 7, line 47 – 51). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Miller with the method of Cohen in order to guide the user through a predetermined sequence of steps.

As per claim 25, which is dependent on claim 20, Cohen teaches the method of claim 20 (see rejection above). Cohen does not teach a method as recited in claim 20, wherein identifying one task that is the current task comprises displaying the one task

differently than the other tasks in the list of tasks. Miller teaches wherein identifying one

task that is the current task comprises displaying the one task differently than the other

tasks in the list of tasks (see Miller, figure 9, item 915). It would have been obvious to

one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of

Miller with the computer-readable media of Fado in order to enable the user to readily

differentiate the current step.

Claims 29 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Miller et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,661,437 in view of Schmidt et al., U.S. Patent No.

6,546,554.

As per claim 29, which is dependent on claim 28, Miller teaches the graphical

user interface of claim 28 (see rejection above). Miller further teaches a graphical user

interface as recited in claim 28, further comprising a dialog box portion identifying

information clarifying the information identified in the user choices portion (see Miller,

figure 7, item 730). Miller does not teach an applet window portion identifying

information clarifying the information identified in the user choices portion. Schmidt et

al. ("Schmidt") discloses using applets (see Schmidt, column 1, lines 48 – 53). It would

have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the applets of Schmidt with

the graphical user interface of Miller in order to make it possible to deploy the graphical

user interface over the web with no installation needed by the user.

As per claim 30, which is dependent on claim 29, Miller and Schmidt teach the

method of claim 29 (see rejection above). Miller further teaches a graphical user

interface as recited in claim 29, wherein the user choices portion identifies information

that is to be entered into a computer by the user (see Miller, figure 4, item 415), and

wherein a display portion identifies information that has already been entered into the

computer by the user (see Miller, figure 4, items 420 and 425). Miller does not teach

wherein the display portion is an applet window. Schmidt discloses using applets (see

Schmidt, column 1, lines 48 – 50). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in

the art to use the applets of Schmidt with the graphical user interface of Miller in order to

make it possible to deploy the graphical user interface over the web with no installation

needed by the user.

Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller et

al., U.S. Patent No. 6,661,437 in view of Janik, U.S. Patent No. 5,285,398.

As per claim 34, which is dependent on claim 28, Miller teaches the method of

claim 28 (see rejection above). Miller does not teach a graphical user interface as

recited in claim 28 implemented on a wearable computer. Janik teaches a graphical

user interface implemented on a wearable computer (see Janik, column 6, line 67 –

column 7, line 3). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention to incorporate the wearable computer of Janik with the graphical

user interface of Miller in order to allow portability of the computer-readable media.

Claims 58, and 48 – 51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Miller et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,661,437 in view of Cohen et al., U.S.

Patent No. 6,507,845.

As per claim 58, which is dependent on claim 56, Miller teaches the graphical

user interface of claim 56 (see rejection above). Miller teaches displaying a task list

portion identifying a list of a plurality of tasks to be performed by a user. Miller does not

teach a graphical user interface as recited in claim 56, further comprising: a second task

list portion identifying a list of a plurality of tasks to be performed by another user; and

an indication in the second task list portion of a current task to be performed by the

other user, wherein the indication is changed, in response to the current task being

performed by the other user, to indicate a next task in the list of tasks to be performed

by the other use as the current task to be performed.

Cohen teaches a task list portion identifying a list of a plurality of tasks to be

performed by another user (see Cohen, column 3, lines 28 – 38; the examiner interprets

plurality of data objects as a plurality of tasks); and an indication in the second task list

portion of a current task to be performed by the other user (see Cohen, column 3, lines

28 – 30), wherein the indication is changed, in response to the current task being

performed by the other user, to indicate a next task in the list of tasks to be performed

by the other use as the current task to be performed (see Cohen, column 7, line 48 –

column 8, line 5; the examiner interprets updating the current task as indicating a next

task in the list of tasks).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to incorporate the method of Cohen with the method Miller in order to provide

a people and document centered awareness tool for easy and effective collaboration on

a project.

As per claim 48, which is dependent on claim 43, Miller teaches the method of

claim 43 (see rejection above). Miller does not teach a method as recited in claim 43,

wherein the receiving comprises receiving an input from a computer component,

wherein the input from the computer component indicates that the current task is

completed. Cohen teaches wherein receiving comprises receiving an input from a

computer component, wherein the input from the computer component indicates that

the current task is completed (see Cohen, column 7, line 62 – column 8, line 5). It

would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to

incorporate the method of Cohen with the method of Miller in order to reflect changes in

system state to the user.

As per claim 49, which is dependent on claim 48, Miller and Cohen teach the

method of claim 48 (see rejection above). Cohen further teaches a method as recited in

claim 48, wherein the computer component comprises a processor executing a software program (see Cohen, column 7, lines 61 – 67).

As per claim 50, which is dependent on claim 48, Miller and Cohen teach the method of claim 48. Miller further teaches a method as recited in claim 48, wherein the computer component comprises a hardware component configured to carry out the current task (see Miller, column 3, lines 20 – 23)

As per claim 51, which is dependent on claim 48, Miller and Cohen teach the method of claim 48 (see rejection above). Cohen further teaches a method as recited in claim 48, wherein the computer component comprises a remote computer (see Cohen, column 7, lines 61 – 65; it is inherent that the server is a remote computer). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Cohen with the method of Miller in order to allow communication between users at different locations.
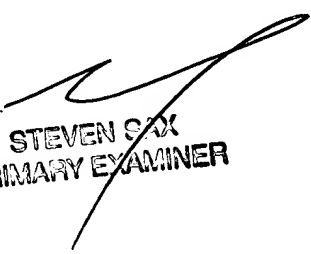
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Umar Arshad whose telephone number is (703) 305-

0329. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 9am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Kristine L Kincaid can be reached on (703) 308-0640. The fax phone

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703)

872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or

proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-

3900.

STEVEN SAX
PRIMARY EXAMINER

UA